

Beasley Broadcast, Las Vegas
June 29, 2014

>> [announcer]

Time now for Inside Your Community with Angie Rush. Inside Your Community is a weekly public affairs program brought to you by Beasley Broadcasting Group.

>> Angie Rush (Radio Show Host, Inside Your Community)

The mission of Foundation for Positively Kids in Las Vegas is to deliver high quality healthcare services for Southern Nevada children. Having high quality affordable health coverage can mean the world to kids and their families. Parents can rest easy knowing their children can get the preventative care that keeps them healthy and gets them the medical care they need if they are sick or injured. Free and low cost health insurance is available through Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program, otherwise known as the CHIP program. Positively Kids is involved in this effort to coverage National Campaign the Connecting Kids to Coverage national campaign, an initiative of the US Department of Health and Human Services. Today on Inside Your Community, I welcome from Foundation for Positively Kids Yvonne Moore, social worker and Vice President of Patient Relations; Monique Cardenas, Outreach and Enrollment Specialist. And we also have Araceli Vivas, CCSD Title I Parent Center Coordinator and Marlina Delgado, who is a parent who went to Positively Kids for application assistance. Welcome all of you to Inside Your Community. Thank you so much for being part of an in-studio show.

>> Yvonne Moore (Vice President of Patient Relations, Positively Kids)

Great, we're glad to be here.

>> Angie Rush

Yvonne, tell us a little bit more about the Children's Health Insurance Program and how it has helped reduce the percentage of uninsured children in our community.

>> Yvonne Moore

Sure, I'd love to discuss that. In July 2013, Positively Kids was awarded a Medicaid grant to help enroll families into Nevada Check Up and to the health insurance program Medicaid. From that inception, we've been able to develop a very great strategic plan with Clark County School District in screening at least 30,000 children by sending school release forms through their backpacks and getting those returned back from parents who identified whether they had insurance or not. And from that strategy we've been able to maneuver through 45 different targeted schools, helped children apply for Medicaid and Nevada Check Up. And as of now, we've helped over 2,000 people apply with adults and children in their household and we're just waiting for those approvals to come in. And that's the partnership with DWSS so that it's ongoing – applications submitted, redeterminations, and then approvals coming back to us. Then we let the families know the great news and how they can now find primary care providers for their children.

>> Angie Rush

That's wonderful. And through the Clark County School District, do you keep this up on a regular basis, checking for kids who have now entered into the school system?

>> Yvonne Moore

Yes, and that is why we're here today. We want to get the message out to all of Clark County's students that we are here to help any family. But this coming school year, you will see a form come home in at least 45 targeted schools into backpacks again. So we do this at the beginning of every school year. And it's exciting to know that families are engaging with us, they're returning the form back to the nurse's office. And then we have the partnership with the nurses and they email, they call us, they tell us, we have forms for you to look at, there are families interested who need your help. And so we want to just keep the word out there to look out for those forms.

>> Angie Rush

That is an amazing number that you have covered so far. And we can only hope that we help get the message out to more families that can use your assistance. Which brings me to Ms. Monique Cardenas. She is the Outreach and Enrollment Specialist. Now, you get these enrollment forms and kids that are interested. Tell us the next process, the step that you take.

>> Monique Cardenas (Outreach and Enrollment Specialist, Positively Kids)

The next step is we go ahead and call the families, or the families can call our main number which is 855-777-5447. And we're able to pre-screen the families. We ask income, family household size, and just see if we'd be able to go ahead and apply you for the program. After that, you're set up with a service center. There are four locations throughout Clark County, so we're able to assist in the location that's closest to you to try to take away any transportation barriers. The family would bring proof of income, Social Security, birth certificates, any other insurance the family might have. And they would sit with an enrollment specialist and we would go ahead and go through the entire application with the family. We submit it with them. Then after that we also teach the families how to get updates on their case. So we give them all the tools necessary so that not only can they know how to do it this year but they can continue to stay covered if they're eligible. So we teach them how to get in contact with the Division of Welfare Social Services, how to turn in paperwork, and also to look out for that year mark when they have to re-do their applications. So we basically step by step are able to help them.

>> Angie Rush

What are some of the general qualifications that someone needs? Is there an income cutoff level?

>> Monique Cardenas

There is. Well, just as an example, a family of four earning up to \$48,800 a year can qualify for our CHIP program. So again, it's dependent on household size and yearly income.

>> Angie Rush

Thank you, Monique. And then we go over to Ms. Araceli Vivas. She is with the Clark County School District Title I Parent Center Coordinator. How are you helping kids in the Clark County School District to make sure that they get these forms that have been sent home in their backpack to reach out to the parents that can really use your assistance through Positively Kids?

>> Araceli Vivas (Parent Connection Coordinator, Herron Elementary School)

Well, working as a Parent Coordinator at Fay Herron, I'm able to work with the parents, teachers and administrators, and I get to see the needs that the families have. So pretty much they come to me with you known, their worries, their concerns, you know, they don't have insurance. And I'm in the office also

where I'm able to see when the kids go to the nurse's office and if they come to me and they will tell me, you know what Miss Araceli I don't have insurance, who can I go to? Or, I have this need of medical and who can I talk to, who can help me? Looking for resources in that way I bumped into Positive Kids, and that's where I met them and I thought, you know what, I'm going to hold onto them. I called them and I spoke to Ray, I think it was Ray or Deborah, and I said, you know what, Fay Herron, we're 98% Hispanic. A lot of them don't have insurance, or they do but they can't qualify. What do I do? And he said, you know what, maybe I can come over and I can meet the families. So I said, better, we're going to have a parent meeting. So we do. At Fay Herron our principal has a parent meeting every first Thursday of the month, and she discussed things that are going on at school, programs, parenting classes, anything like that that we can provide to help our parents. So they came over, and it was an awesome turnout. And ever since then, anything I have with insurance, that's who I call, Positive Kids. They're awesome. They did a lot of awesome things for our families there at Fay Herron and even outside of Fay Herron. Because we're a community that they know other families, and I'll tell them, okay, send them over. Just because we have a parent center there for Fay Herron, it doesn't mean we can't reach out to other families. And that's what has been happening.

>> Angie Rush

That is a blessing. And how can someone get a hold of you should they want to attend one of these meetings?

>> Araceli Vivas

Actually, you know what; they can just call the Fay Herron number, which is 702-799-7123. And what we do is, like I said, every first Thursday of the month we have a parent meeting. And we have a lot of services, a lot of people that come out, and they want to reach our community. Because we want to have our parents empowered. And so we want them to know. And I'll tell them, I'll even have forms up in the front office, and I'll tell them, if you have a family member that needs insurance or wants to know anything. Even, on the third generation, and I have called Ray or Debora regarding that. And they've been able to help.

>> Angie Rush

So it's all a big coordinated effort to make this happen, to help children in our community.

>> Araceli Vivas

Yes. And it's so rewarding when they call you, I even get emotional because they'll call me and they'll say, oh Miss Araceli, thank you so much. And I say, No, and then I'll call Ray or Deborah. Oh, thank you so much you know. Because it just is rewarding to be able to help families.

>> Angie Rush

And I can see that. All of you are just so dedicated to the services and helping this campaign to help kids get coverage.

>> Yvonne Moore

And I just want to add, so that all the families that might be Spanish speaking, Latino families also. We do want to reach out to those families who are undocumented who have children who were born here in the United States. Those children do qualify. We do have a whole mixture of the Latino Spanish speaking

families who sit with our enrollment specialist. We use their information to show their household income, which then will help qualify those children who were born here in the United States. And then with the undocumented older child, we then refer them to one of our school based clinics who will see that child just based on their Clark County student identification. So they won't need coverage in order to go to one of our Clark County school district clinics, because we will see them for a sick visit, immunizations, a sports physical. So they do have somewhere to go. And then we want to get those younger children who were born here in the United States on Medicaid or Nevada Check Up to have all of their preventative care needs met. So with the undocumented families, please spread the word that if they do have any children, even if it's just one, let's help that family get enrolled and get that one child on insurance and get referrals and resources for the other children. Again, Medicaid is year round. We want to make sure all families know that, they can apply; we will help them apply and get on Medicaid. It's not closed, it's a year round program, and that's what our campaign and message is spreading.

>> Angie Rush

And we're talking about all the services that you can provide for kids that are uninsured, but we haven't gone into specifics. Let's talk about the family health clinic. Yvonne, if you can elaborate on that a little bit.

>> Yvonne Moore

Yes, and this is kind of where it started, knowing that there are children in Clark County that we serve. Positively Kids has a family health care clinic on the Clark County Child Haven campus. So we service all the foster care kids. We also have community kids coming through there, and we want to help those families who reunify with their children and make sure that they get linked up and connected to health coverage. So from the Child Haven campus, we have medical doctors there, we have a dentist on site, we have mental health services. So it's kind of a wraparound approach where when children come in we cross refer and make sure they have all of their basic needs met by coming to visit us at the Child Haven campus.

>> Angie Rush

Is there certain hours or an appointment needed to get into the clinic?

>> Yvonne Moore

There is an appointment needed. We ask families to call our main appointment number, which is 702-262-0037, option 1 to make an appointment. And in that realm we also screen for families who do not have coverage, because we have three school based clinics that are open for any Clark County student who can come in and also see a provider if they are sick, if they're uninsured, undocumented, still waiting for their application to go through for Medicaid. We want to service them in their communities through our Martinez school based center, Casey Jones Wynn school based center and also our Cunningham location. So they're all about town across the valley here, and we can make an appointment for any of those locations at the same phone number.

>> Angie Rush

Okay, and then if they are qualified into the CHIP program, is there some other financial assistance that they can utilize?

>> Yvonne Moore

Once they have CHIP or Medicaid, they are then covered for all of the preventative basic care needs. So we can see them with their coverage. If a family does not have insurance or they are waiting for the application to go through, that's when we invite them to come to our main campus for a sliding fee scale, they just bring their information or let our person know over the phone and we will let you know what to bring. Then you get approved, and we go by a sliding fee scale. Once you get on Medicaid and you get your card, and we can see you any time you have a sick visit, a well check, any other kind of issues that come up, you'll be covered. And that includes medication which is so vital and important, because a lot of uninsured families –

>> Angie Rush

They are so expensive today.

>> Yvonne Moore

Exactly So that is why we see this program and campaign on helping screen as many Clark County students, children, families, is so important, because it helps them financially and for their well-being in school.

>> Angie Rush

And knowing that they can get the help that they need to keep their kids healthy. And healthy kids, I mean, you need that to go to school and to be involved with activities. All that well-being provides a very happy, healthy child who prospers. You also provide nursing services program. Can you tell us about that?

>> Yvonne Moore

Yes, I want to share with you. Through Positively Kids, we're kind of like an umbrella. So once they come in and get their insurance, that's when we help them find their primary care provider, which we hope they choose to be one of our locations. Then we share with them any other kind of services they might need under our umbrella. Nursing service is very critical for kids who have special needs, who are at home on trachs or on machines. We send nurses into the homes to help train the families, to oversee the case management of the child, to chaperon the parent to a doctor's visit. We also have a medical daycare program, where we have slots at certain daycare centers for special needs children to participate. We want them to integrate and be a part of their community. We will send a nurse out to then watch those children who are located at that center, which is great for these families who can then go out and work and be fulfilling. Along with that, our respite care services. We have a lot of families who take care of special needs kids, and it's important that they have that time alone for themselves to be able to go out –

>> Angie Rush

Regroup, rest, revitalize.

>> Yvonne Moore

Yes, and to also go handle business without having to worry about toting around all your children or a special needs kid who is attached to oxygen and everything else. We then provide them hours where our nurse will go into their home and care for that child while the parent can leave and go handle some business. So that's very important to our families who we do case management with, and they use those very sacredly, because those are a very few important hours that they can get our services and support. So

that's amazing we have that. The other program I wanted to share is our Neurology/Autism program. We do have a neurologist on site at our Cunningham location. She does screening, she does EEGs, she does make diagnoses for autism and other needs, like ADD, epilepsy, those kinds of things and she will help monitor and manage prescription management. So it's great we have that on site. So you can see that we're a whole agency that tends to pediatric care. We make cross referrals into our different various programs. We are applying to be a medical home model so that we are caring for all of the needs that the children have that we assess and evaluate at the time of their appointments.

>> Angie Rush

And it's not just one general overlook if a child comes in, oh, you might have a cough. You go that extra step to get them the professional, the specific professional... There is a great program too that I read about on your website, and it houses several of the services under one roof. It's the medical daycare. Can you tell us about that? It's also educational too.

>> Yvonne Moore

That's again a partnership we have with the Clark County Department of Family Children Services. We send nurses out to the home to provide education to family members, to parents. There are many children in Clark County who have been in a car accident and now they are needing a lot more special care, they are needing training at home from the parents. And these are children also in our foster care system who are in various placements who need the experience and the special care that they need to take care of them. So monitoring those children, sending nurses out to the home, going with the parents to the doctors' appointments, that's what's special about the medical day care program.

>> Angie Rush

And now we come to a very special lady, Marlina Delgado. She went to Positively Kids to get some help with the application process. Marlina, thank you for being here.

>> Marlina Delgado (Local parent who worked with Positively Kids to get her children enrolled)

Thank you.

>> Angie Rush

Tell us a little bit about your experience getting help. How did it help you and your family?

>> Marlina Delgado

It really helped me a lot. I was off for work; I mean I hadn't been working for over a year so I had lost my insurance for my work. I had my daughter living with me so I figured that my income was over income for us, you know. So I was so glad when I got a letter from the school, Yvonne had mentioned that they distribute these letters to the school. And I received that letter, so I did fill it out. They called me, and I was really, I mean, since the first call until the end they have just been really wonderful to me. They helped me fill out - sometimes even though you know how to read, you know how to fill out applications and stuff, they are really complicated, and sometimes that is one of the struggles that we go through when we're trying to apply for any kind of assistance. And they kind of took your hand and helped you step by step. But not making you feel incompetent, you know. They made you feel, you know, this is how it is. And it was really helpful for me, and I was really grateful they were open on a Saturday too so that was really nice. I don't know if they are open now, but that day they were open on a Saturday. And they

helped me out, Ray, Deborah were really nice to me. They just, I'm telling you, they make you feel so comfortable, where you know, it's not – sometimes we have this prideful, inside of us, why do we need this assistance? But it really helped me, I'm so glad because at the time as I said I had lost my insurance and my high school child wanted to do sports. But for school you need to have a physical, and she was unable to attend due to the fact that I didn't take her to get her physical. But now she is going to be able to do sports for school.

>> Angie Rush

What sport does she do?

>> Marlina Delgado

She loves basketball and soccer.

>> Angie Rush

And what's her name?

>> Marlina Delgado

Her name's Miranda.

>> Angie Rush

Miranda! You go!

[Applause and laughter]

>> Marlina Delgado

So I'm really grateful, because she was kind of sad. And like you mentioned earlier, you know, it's her attitude, it's really stressful for them starting high school first of all. And then without interacting, it's really difficult for her. So this year I know there are a lot of positive things that are going to be going her way thanks to help from the insurance that we got. That was the first step in her getting her physical, and now she can enroll in the sports. They've been really kind.

>> Angie Rush

Yes, you're the best. Look, she is beaming. And it's all thanks to all of you in this collaborative effort to making a child happy. Starting high school is hard enough. So we're all hoping for the best for her. I keep hearing Deborah and Ray. They deserve some recognition here. Yvonne, can you tell us a little bit?

>> Yvonne Moore

Yes, I want to just highlight all my staff. Deborah and Ray are located at our Martinez school based clinic. So from there they outreach to various families. I have Monique also who is at the Southern Nevada Health District site with Ellie. They both are screening all the families that come through the Southern Nevada Health District at Valley View to make sure they get connected to insurance. And then we have Erica and Deborah, who are located at the Salvation Army. That is another wonderful location across from referrals and all that happens in that center. And we have Maggie and Anna who are at the Southern Nevada Health District on Nellis. And from our partnerships with a lot of agencies we've been offered additional locations and space, which is wonderful. So I send a staff person to the Boys and Girls

Club on Lindell on Fridays. I send a staff person to the Latin Chamber on Stuart; I believe it's on, on Wednesdays. And I also send Maggie out to Southern Nevada Health District on Wednesdays out in Henderson. So we are definitely spreading out, we want to make ourselves available to all the families who have uninsured children. They just need to call us. Again, the number is 1-855-777-5447, and then we can connect you to the right location depending on your zip code. We want to get the closest area for you. Just bring what you need and we will help you with the whole application process.

>> Angie Rush

I am speaking with Yvonne Moore. She is a social worker and also the Vice President of Patient Relations at Foundation for Positively Kids. Helping kids get coverage, which is so important. And your services, they do take a lot of financial stability. How can someone donate to your organization?

>> Yvonne Moore

This is the thing. We have tons of services as you can see under our umbrella. We are a nonprofit pediatric foundation. We have fundraisers that happen throughout the year, and I just wanted to mention our upcoming fundraiser is October 6. It's Swing for the Kids. It will be at TPC Summerlin, and we are always looking for donors and sponsors for this event which then helps us with our non-restricted funds to put into our respite program, or add more hours, or buy equipment for a special child who has special needs. Or also hold an event that will help families learn about what we do out in the community at our outreach tables. We are at various events; we're welcome to be invited to events. If you know health events that Positively Kids can provide a table for please contact us at our website at www.Positivelykids.org. The other great thing we are known for is our donation boxes. You'll see those across town. It's a yellow box that says Positively Kids, and we are actually doing a Selfie Campaign right now where we would like as many families and community members to donate slightly used clothes, small appliances, into our boxes and we then get funding recouped from those donations that go into our programs again also. So that is another way you can contribute and participate in giving back to Positively Kids.

>> Angie Rush

Positivelykids.org. Positivelykids.org is the website. And it's a wonderful website. There is so much information and it elaborates more on all the services. There are even more services like, you know, Marlina had mentioned that there are sports physicals, things that you might not have even thought. It would do you good to go onto the website and check out a complete list of all the services. Once again, the event coming up is on October 6. It is called Swing for the Kids. It's at TPC in Summerlin. Can they go online to purchase tickets?

>> Yvonne Moore

Yes, you can go online to purchase tickets or you can also call our main number which is 702-262-0037 and someone can help you become a sponsor, let you know what our packages are. We are definitely looking for the community to sign up and come play golf with us for the day.

>> Angie Rush

Volunteer?

>> Yvonne Moore

To volunteer also. We will be rounding up lists of people who are interested and ways they can participate.

>> Angie Rush

And let's give out the contact information one more time. The 1-855 number, if you can give that again.

>> Yvonne Moore

We're doing a campaign, Medicaid/Nevada Check Up enrollment. Any families or any partnering agencies who come across families who are uninsured please have them call us. Our number is 1-855-777-5447.

>> Angie Rush

And all of this information is also available at positivelykids.org, that's positivelykids.org. The Foundation for Positively Kids helps provide children with the resources needed to get healthy and stay healthy with a team that consists of dedicated professionals such as the ones that are sitting in front of me today. Yvonne Moore, social worker and Vice President of Patient Relations with Positively Kids, as well as Monique Cardenas, Outreach and Enrollment Specialist. Araceli Vivas, thank you so much for being here too, she is with the Clark County School District. And Marlina Delgado, who is a parent who utilized the services that are available. Reach out; find out what it's all about. You could qualify. These are a dedicated team, they will help you. And it's so important to have our children in our community stay healthy and get the help they need. It's the Foundation for Positively Kids. For more information, go online today. Positivelykids.org, that's positivelykids.org. I thank all of you for being on Inside Your Community today.

>> Yvonne Moore

Thanks for having us.

>> [announcer]

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>> [commercial]

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